

IN THE CLAIMS:

7. (Amended) A multireactive polymerizable mesogenic compound according to claim

1, wherein R^2 is a group of one of the following formulae

-X-alkyl-CHP¹-CH₂-CH₂P² Ia

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-CH₂P³ Ib

-X-alkyl-CHP¹CHP²-CH₂P³ Ic

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-C_aH_{2a+1} Id

-X-alkyl-CHP¹-CH₂P² Ie

-X-alkyl-CHP¹P² If

-X-alkyl-CP¹P²-C_aH_{2a+1} Ig

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-CH₂OCH₂-C(CH₂P³)(CH₂P⁴)CH₂P⁵ Ih

-X-alkyl-CH((CH₂)_aP¹)((CH₂)_bP²) Ii

-X-alkyl-CHP¹CHP²-C_aH_{2a+1} Ik

wherein

alkyl is straight-chain or branched alkylene with 1 to 12 C atoms which may be unsubstituted, mono- or polysubstituted by halogen or CN, one or more non-adjacent CH₂ groups optionally being replaced, in each case independently from one another, by -O-, -S-, -NH-, -N(CH₃)-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -OCO-O-, -S-CO-, -CO-S-, -CH=CH- or -C≡C- in such a manner that oxygen atoms are not linked directly to one another,

a and b are identical or different integers from 0 to 6,

X has one of the meanings given in formula I, and

P¹ to P⁵ independently have one of the meanings of P given in formula I.

8. (Amended) A multireactive polymerizable mesogenic compound according to claim

5, wherein R^2 is a group of one of the following formulae

-X-alkyl-CHP¹-CH₂-CH₂P² Ia

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-CH₂P³ Ib

-X-alkyl-CHP¹CHP²-CH₂P³ Ic

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-C_aH_{2a+1} Id

-X-alkyl-CHP¹-CH₂P² Ie

-X-alkyl-CHP¹P² If

-X-alkyl-CP¹P²-C_aH_{2a+1} Ig

-X-alkyl-C(CH₂P¹)(CH₂P²)-CH₂OCH₂-C(CH₂P³)(CH₂P⁴)CH₂P⁵ Ih

-X-alkyl-CH((CH₂)_aP¹)((CH₂)_bP²) Ii

-X-alkyl-CHP¹CHP²-C_aH_{2a+1} Ik

wherein

alkyl is straight-chain or branched alkylene with 1 to 12 C atoms which may be unsubstituted, mono- or polysubstituted by halogen or CN, one or more non-adjacent CH₂ groups optionally being replaced, in each case independently from one another, by -O-, -S-, -NH-, -N(CH₃)-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -OCO-O-, -S-CO-, -CO-S-, -CH=CH- or -C≡C- in such a manner that oxygen atoms are not linked directly to one another,

a and b are identical or different integers from 0 to 6,

X has one of the meanings given in formula I, and

P¹ to P⁵ independently have one of the meanings of P given in formula I.

May 12, 2003

Reply to Office Action of February 11, 2003

- A₁ Conf 9. (Amended) A multireactive polymerizable mesogenic compound according to claim 7, wherein alkyl is $-(CH_2)_c-$, with c being an integer from 1 to 12.
-

- P₂ 13. (Amended) A linear or crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a polymerizable mesogenic composition according to claim 11.
-

Add the following new claim:

- A₃ 17. (New) A multireactive polymerizable mesogenic compound according to claim 8, wherein alkyl is $-(CH_2)_c-$, with c being an integer from 1 to 12.
-